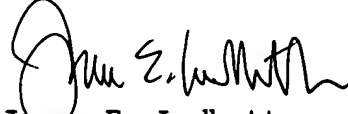


REMARKS

This Preliminary Amendment amends the claims to correspond to the Article 19 amendment, pursuant to MPEP 1893.01(a)(2), second paragraph. Early and favorable consideration of this application is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



James E. Ledbetter  
Registration No. 28,732

Date: December 30, 2005

JEL/spp

ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. L9289.05198  
STEVENS, DAVIS, MILLER & MOSHER, L.L.P.  
Suite 850  
1615 L Street, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20036  
Telephone: (202) 785-0100  
Facsimile: (202) 408-5200